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EXAMINER
WOO, ISAAC M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _31 January 2000_ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _2_ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Hobbs (U.S. Patent No. 5, 987,454) in view of Mora et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,161,113,

hereinafter, "Mora"), and in view of Amstein et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,793,966,

hereinafter, "Amstein").

       With respect claim 1, Hobbs discloses the plurality of clients, each the client

comprising a plurality of user interface (204, FIG. 2) classes and at least one class that

provides access to a database (230, FIG. 2), see (col. 11, lines 12-18; col. 1, lines 10-

32; col. 14, lines 3-8 and col. 12, lines 40 –67 to col. 13, lines 1-17);

       server (207, FIG. 4) comprising a plurality of servlets, at least some of the

servlets providing at least one of a database and server access capability to each client,

see (col. 19, lines 54-61 and col. 14, lines 46-55); and

database (230, FIG. 4) comprising a plurality of tables, at least one of the tables

(col. 10, lines 44-61). Hobbs fails to discloses the tables comprising at least one error

proofing example and meta-data defined by a user when creating an error proofing

example, the database accessed by each client via the server. However, Mora

discloses the database tables (col. 1, lines 36-44) comprising at least one error proofing

example (col. 19, lines 22-24; col. 21, lines 56-67 to col. 22, lines 1-28 and col. 19, lines

63-67 to col. 20, lines 15). And Amstein discloses that the database tables (col. 1, lines

33-41) comprising meta-data (col. 10, lines 47-67 to col. 11, lines 1-11). Therefore, it

would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

to combine Mora and Amstein with Hobbs to include the system of error proofing and

meta-data into the system of client, server and database tables. One of ordinary skill in

the art would have been motivated to modify Hobbs with the teaching of Mora and

Amstein that error proofing and concepts of the tolerance for errors at near-zero levels

are very important because potential errors have a devastating impact downstream.

Thus, user needs to quickly access to database that provides all error proofing

documentations and needs to access meta-database that also can provide quick and

various similar types of information to users. Thus, it would have been obvious that

database provides error proofing method and meta-data types of information.

With respect to claims 2 and 14, Hobbs discloses that each user interface

classes comprises at least two visual components for controlling information shown to a

user and for handling user input, see (abstract; col. 16, lines 34-42; col. 21, lines 13-20 and col. 9, lines 21-29).

With respect to claims 3 and 15, Hobbs discloses that one of the user interface classes constructs and displays a menu of web pages that user can view, see (col. 8, lines 8-12 and col. 21, lines 13-20).

With respect to claims 4 and 16, Hobbs discloses that one of the user interface classes initializes and displays forms, see (col. 11, lines 4-10; col. 7, lines 44-50 and col. 16, lines 34-42).

With respect to claims 5 and 17, Hobbs discloses the class that provides access to the database formats SQL statements and invokes request to servlets in the server that provide database access, see (col. 10, lines 61-67 to col. 11, lines 1-3; col. 14, lines 46-55 and col.19, lines 54-61).

With respect to claims 6 and 18, Hobbs discloses that server (207, FIG. 4) comprises servlets (col. 14, lines 50-55) for database queries (col. 14, lines 61-62) and updating, uploading a document and updating the database (col. 21, lines 46-58 and col.23, lines 14-20), downloading a document, and extracting user permissions from the database, see (col. 14, lines 60-62 and col. 20, lines 9-20).

With respect to claims 7 and 19, Mora discloses that one of the tables stores process to which an error proofing example applies and failure modes associated with an error proofing example, see (col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 20, lines 1-15 and col. 18, lines 65-67).

With respect to claim 8, Mora discloses that one of the tables stores part families to which an error proofing example applies, see (col. 13, lines 37-59).

With respect to claims 9 and 12, Mora discloses that one of the tables stores a solution stage to which a solution of an error proofing example, and a principle and related strategy, see (col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 20, lines 1-15).

With respect to claim 10, Amstein discloses that one of the tables stores data identifying users of the error proofing web sites, see (col. 2, lines 34-67).

With respect to claim 11, Mora discloses that that one of the tables stores textual data relating to the error proofing example, see (col. 4, lines 9-15).

With respect to claim 13, Hobbs, Mora and Amstein disclose that the method for identifying an error technique for a given application (col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 1-5 by Mora) using a web-based system (FIG. 4 by Hobbs), the system including a plurality of clients including a plurality of user interface classes (203, FIG. 4 by Hobbs), a server

including a plurality of servlets (col. 14, lines 46-67 by Hobbs), and a database including

of tables including at least one example of an error proofing technique (col. 19, lines 63-

67 to col. 1-5 by Mora) and user defined meta-data (col. 10, lines 47-67 to col. 11, lines

1-11 by Amstein), Hobbs discloses the using at least one interface class (204, web

browser, FIG. 4) to provide access to a database, see (FIG. 4, col. 14, lines 1-40);

using at least some of the servlets to provide at least one of the database (col.

14, lines 46-55) and server access to capability to a client, see (FIG. 4, col. 14, lines 1-

67); Mora discloses the accessing a table containing an error proofing example, see

(col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 1-5);

choosing an error proofing technique to fit the given application, see (col. 6, lines

6-16). (Note: the combining of Hobbs, Mora and Amstein, has already been applied to

as claimed in claim 1).

With respect to claim 20, Mora discloses the storing failure modes in the table

associated with an error proofing example, see (col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 20, lines 1-15

and col. 18, lines 65-67);

storing party families in the table to which an error example applies, see (col. 13,

lines 37-59);

storing a solution stage in the table to which a solution of an error proofing

example applies, see (col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 20, lines 1-15);

storing data identifying users of the error proofing websites in the table, see (col.

2, lines 34-67);

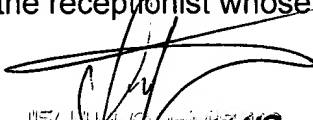storing textual data relating to the error proofing example in the table, see (col. 4, lines 9-15);

storing a principle and related strategy that are associated with an error proofing example in the table, see (col. 19, lines 63-67 to col. 20, lines 1-15).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac M Woo whose telephone number is (703) 305-0081. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on (703) 305-4393. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7201 for regular communications and (703) 308-6606 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

JEAN M CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

IMW
April 16, 2002